

REMARKS

The undersigned thanks the examiner for the courtesies extended during the personal interview conducted on March 10, 2004.

In the previous Action, Claims 1-6, 8-12, and 14-31 were rejected as obvious over a combination of references. Claims 13 and 32 were indicated to be allowable.

During the interview, the examiner agreed that methods of making arc tubes having canoe-shaped portions were patentable, as well as methods of making arc tubes using a mold defining a cavity having a flattened portion extending over 50% or more of the maximum length of the cavity.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the obviousness rejections of Claims 1-6, 8-12, and 14-31 is solicited.

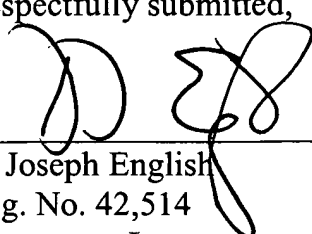
Consideration and allowance of new Claims 33-42 is solicited. No new matter has been added.

Claims 2, 3, and 10 have been amended to overcome the formalities identified by the examiner.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of all rejections is solicited. A further and favorable Action and allowance of all claims is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: March 10, 2004

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